



Homecoming

Homecoming Week begins
Oct. 4 and with a pirate-
themed week of events

ENTERTAINMENT
[PAGE 4]

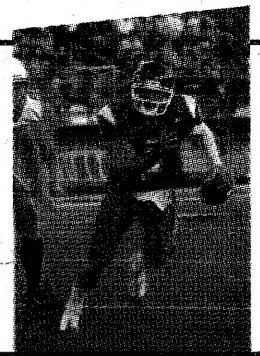
gateway

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA SINCE 1913

Football

Senior quarterback Greg
Wunderlich named Offensive
Player of the Week.

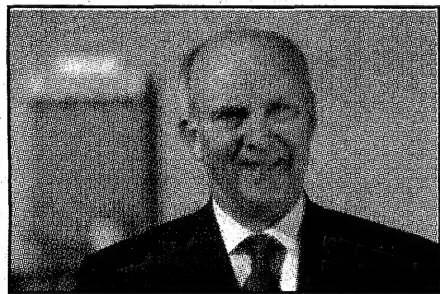
SPORTS
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VOLUME 09 | ISSUE 11

FRIDAY | OCTOBER 2, 2009

Mayor Suttle comes to UNO, talks economy, rail system



Mayor Suttle (COURTESY JIM SUTTLE)

STEVE COUFAL
CONTRIBUTOR

UNO's College Democrats welcomed Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle to address students' questions in the Milo Bail Student Center Monday night.

The evening began with a State of the City address. Suttle began his oration in good spirits, talking casually and conversationally. His demeanor was that of a late night talk show host delivering a prized monologue.

He detailed his private and political life and shared events and updates from around the city as he explained his political accomplishments and his goals for the future.

Afterward, he opened the floor to questions. Students posed their toughest questions to the city's highest elected official. Most of the inquiries centered on the recent passage of the 2010 budget.

The College Democrats did heavy work for Suttle's mayoral campaign last spring. Kara Kingsley, president of UNO College Democrats, said this work served as a basis for the strong relationship the group has with him, and that it was important for him to come and answer student questions.

"A lot of people have heard about the budget," she said. "[There's] good talk about it and bad talk about it, so it was good for him to come out and talk about it."

Issues including the entertainment tax, furloughs, library funds, property tax and cash reserves surfaced as the mayor shared his views on the recently resolved budget debate.

Suttle said he is optimistic about creating green jobs and economic development. Even challenges like the sewer separation project were explained as opportunities. He said the project will create jobs and Omaha will become a leader in environmental conservation.

"How do we attract the right industry, the high tech industry, the green industry to come here? We have to get on the road and sell Omaha," Suttle said.

Making Omaha a destination for investors is the key to getting out of the recession, he said.

SEE SUTTLE: PAGE 3

Crabb, Halbom elected in record-setting election

ANDREA CIUREJ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In a record breaking election year, Michael Crabb and running mate Gina Halbom won the student body president/regent and vice president race in this week's election.

Crabb and Halbom received 823 votes out of a 1,579 ballots cast. The opposing ticket, Matt Nelson and running mate Shari Tangeman, received 690 votes.

The number of ballots cast this year was the most recorded in UNO history, compared with last year's total of 751 votes.

"That speaks volumes for the qualities of the candidates this year," Crabb said. "I really appreciate the opportunity and that so many people turned out to vote for both of us."

Crabb said his platform is looking to lengthen library hours, make the campus more environmentally friendly and structure Student Government to act as a resource for the students.

"Get ready on that liaison system," Crabb said. "Start making changes and doing good things – that's the goal."

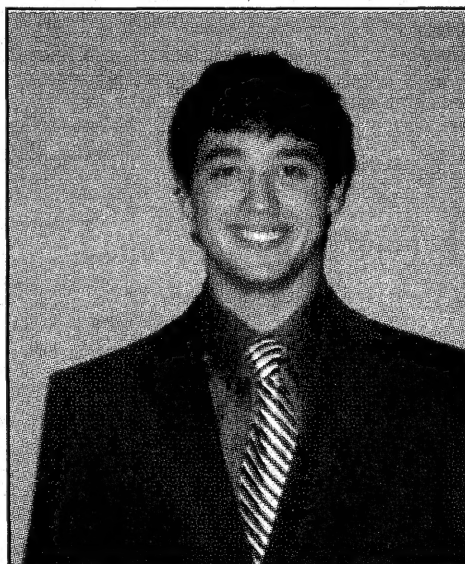
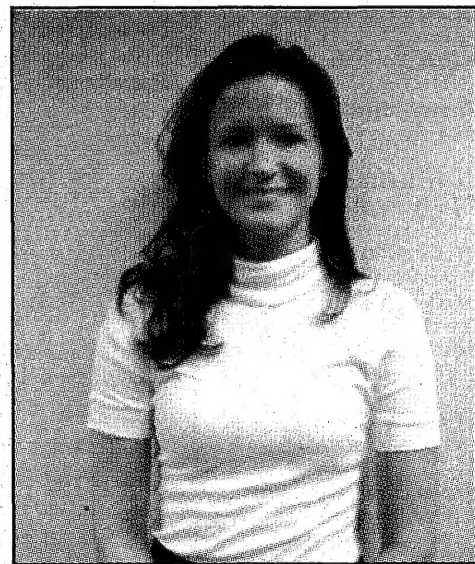
Halbom said she is ready to bring about change for the student body.

"We're ready to work for the students," Halbom said. "They gave us this opportunity...and I'm really thankful to be in this position."

Neal Bonacci, the current student body president/regent, said both tickets campaigned to the fullest and are capable of taking on their positions.

"I would've been confident in both of the tickets," Bonacci said, "but I think Michael is ready for the job and I think Gina is going to do a great job as vice president."

Crabb and Halbom will officially be sworn in as student body president/regent and vice president during an installation ceremony in January 2010. The date for the

Michael Crabb
President/RegentGina Halbom
Vice President

ceremony will be set later this year.

Three referenda items were also voted on by the student body. These items include the allocation of student fees to support The Gateway, campus speaker programs hosted by Maverick Productions and salaries for Student Government officers.

Funding for The Gateway was approved with 39.33 percent of students voting "yes." The other 60.67 percent of students either voted against the funding or abstained. Funding for Maverick Productions was also approved with 50.85 percent of students voting "yes." The other 49.14 percent were against the funding or abstained.

The majority of students opposed the allocation of student fees to support Student Government officers. These positions include the president, vice president, executive treasurer, legislative and public relations and the chief administration officer.

The referendum item was rejected, as in past elections, with 50.09 percent of students voting "no." The other 49.90 percent were in support of the item or abstained.

Although elections are over, Nelson and Tangeman still have unfinished business to attend.

Nelson said that he will continue to uphold his position as chief administrative officer and Tangeman as executive treasurer.

"We're going to continue to work hard for the students, regardless of what position we're in," Nelson said.

Tangeman said she will continue to work on SABC and other treasurer duties.

"I won't go out on a bad term," Tangeman said. "It's not the last you've heard of me."

Although the last senate had a lot of potential, Bonacci hopes the future senate will have more passion when fulfilling its duties.

"I kind of hope the feel of student government and the senators within the organization have a little bit more passion about the organization and through that passion, have the will to get more things done on campus," Bonacci said.

Speech Center holds workshop on beating speech anxiety

HOLLY FREDRICKSON
CONTRIBUTOR

For many students, public speaking is a familiar and dreaded experience. It can bring on sweaty palms, shaking limbs and increased heart rate.

Voices tremble and students might even experience tunnel vision or nausea.

The UNO Speech Center wants these students to know they're not alone. Approximately 70 to 75 percent of the U.S. population experiences some kind of anxiety over public speaking, and there are things they can do to decrease their feelings of nervousness.

The Speech Center hosted a "lunch and learn" session on Wednesday in the Gallery Room of the Milo Bail Student Center. Free pizza and pop were provided, and two representatives from the

Speech Center were on hand to present information and answer questions.

In the session "Banish those Butterflies: Overcoming Speech Anxiety," students learned the biological and psychological reasons for communication anxiety, which doesn't necessarily limit itself to public speaking.

People can also be affected by communication anxiety in small group situations, meetings and even interpersonal conversations, such as job interviews or appointments with a professor.

Not surprisingly, the social lives, academic and business careers of people with communication anxiety can suffer. That's why seeking help is so important, said Kate Rempfer, a speech instructor and one of the presenters of the session.

"It can cause people to withdraw from their academic and social lives," Rempfer said. "They might not go out for clubs or activities, and they might even drop out of school to avoid giving speeches."

It might seem far-fetched that anyone would drop out of school over something as trivial as a 15-minute presentation, but Rempfer points out that irrational fear is one of the trademarks of communication anxiety. Otherwise logical and confident individuals can develop a completely unreasonable panic response to an activity that is harmless.

"It doesn't matter how well you do on tests or how intelligent you are. Communication anxiety can affect anyone," she said.

The key to overcoming speech anxiety is recognizing your "triggers" and working to manage them, said Marlina

Davidson, a speech instructor and consultant for the speech center.

Common triggers are physical feelings of nervousness, negative thinking and visualization. Treatment methods include deep abdominal breathing, mental rehearsal and even simple things like exercise, which reduces stress and promotes feelings of confidence and calmness.

Other free workshops to be offered by the Speech Center this semester include "Introductions, Conclusions & Audience Centeredness" on Oct. 27 at 11:30 a.m. and "Creating Visual Aids that Work: Designing Effective PowerPoint Slides" on Nov. 18 at 11 a.m. For more information or to register for a workshop, contact the Speech Center at 554-3201 or unospeechcenter@unomaha.edu.

Alum discusses former presidential speeches and their impact on history

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Samuel Walker, who earned his master of arts in history from UNO in 1970, presented the Department of History's Centennial Alumnus lecture and the 12th Annual Richard Winchell History lecture Thursday night at the Alumni Center. Walker is a professor emeritus in the UNO Department of Criminal Justice. (MITCHELL WARREN/ THE GATEWAY)

ANDREA CIUREJ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
&
MITCHELL WARREN
CONTRIBUTOR

Beginning with President Woodrow Wilson, actions spoke louder than speeches for former U.S. presidents.

This was the focus of UNO alumnus and criminal justice emeritus professor Samuel Walker's speech titled "Great Presidential Speeches They Did Not Give: Presidents and Civil Liberties, Wilson to Bush."

The History Department/College of Arts and Sciences Centennial Lecture and Twelfth Annual Richard Dean Winchell History Lecture hosted Walker's speech, which took place in the Thompson Alumni Center on Sept. 24.

"The lectures are designed to showcase the college, which is celebrating its 100 years of excellence..." said David Boocker, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Walker said he decided to research undelivered presidential speeches to uncover how different history might have been. His research is for his nearly completed book, "Poor Custodians: Presidents and Civil Liberties from Woodrow Wilson to George W. Bush."

"Speeches are things that define presidential greatness," Walker said. "You can't make an informed opinion unless you've looked at the others."

Due to time, Walker primarily focused on Presidents Wilson and Franklin Roosevelt. He said the civil liberties performed by these presidents are a complex and fascinating subject.

"The whole question of presidents and civil

liberties, if you want to try to force it into some kind of good guy/bad guy, Republican/Democrat boat, it's all wrong," Walker said.

Walker said Wilson's "War Message to Congress" during World War I was cited as one of the worst episodes of civil liberties in American history.

"It was a massive suppression of freedom of speech and the press," Walker said. "That kind of activity – the vigilante stuff – probably did as much to instill fear and conformity into the public as it did to further prosecutions for the Justice Department."

Walker said Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 to send Japanese-Americans to internment camps during World War II didn't state the facts.

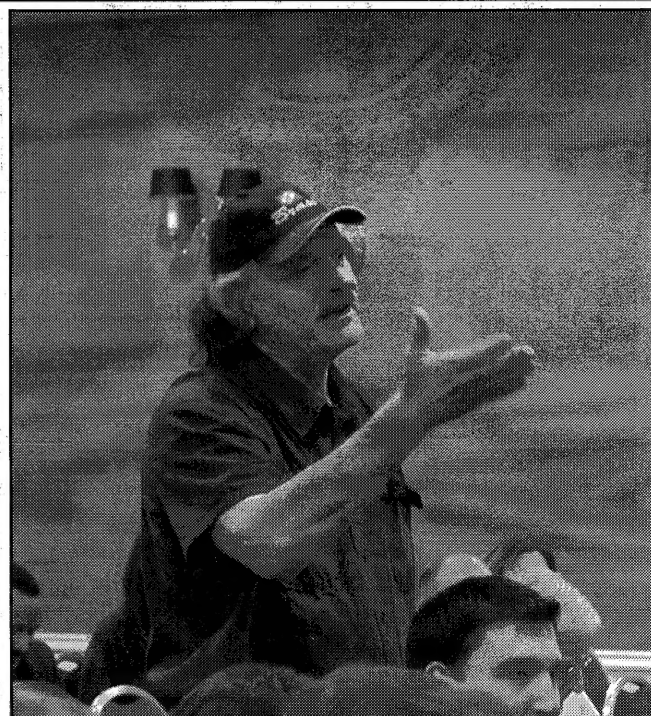
"What actually happened was they were speaking about bargaining into a war without thinking of what you're doing," Walker said. "They were removed."

Walker said President Harry Truman stands alone as one of the great presidents. However, he is a little disappointed with President Barack Obama's performance.

"[Truman] is the only president of this period who risked his political career for an issue of individual rights," he said. "[Obama] is far better than any president we've had in a long time, but we're still early in the game."

Junior Nicci Hoskinson, a criminal justice major, said she agreed with Walker's comparisons.

"I thought the comparison between the presidents of the past and President Bush was pretty accurate in the way that they dealt with situations, with civil liberties and just in legal liberties all together," Hoskinson said. "And I agree with him that it is too early to tell about Obama, but hopefully he's a step in the right direction."



Doug Paterson interacts with Samuel Walker (not pictured), Thursday night at the Alumni Center. (MITCHELL WARREN/ THE GATEWAY)

CRIME LOG

COMPILED BY BREANNA HAYDEN
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009

3:37 a.m. While on patrol of University Village, Campus Security discovered an alcohol violation. The Omaha Police responded. Two students were cited for minor in possession of alcohol and referred for disciplinary action.

Friday, Sept. 25, 2009

10:56 a.m. A student reported the theft of their bicycle from Lot L.

Saturday, Sept. 26, 2009

12:06 a.m. While on patrol of Scott Village, Campus Security discovered an alcohol violation. The alcohol was disposed of. One student was referred for disciplinary action.

Sunday, Sept. 27, 2009

12 a.m. While on patrol of Lot K, Campus Security discovered a controlled substance violation. The Omaha Police responded. One student was cited for possession of marijuana less than 1 ounce and possession of drug paraphernalia. A second student was also cited for possession of drug paraphernalia. Both students were referred for disciplinary action.

9:15 p.m. Student reported the theft of personal property while at Caniglia Field. The theft occurred between 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

11:37 p.m. Campus Security responded to a controlled substance complaint at University Village. The Omaha Police responded. One student as cited for possession of marijuana less than 1 ounce. One visitor was cited for providing false information and arrested for being reported as a missing person. Two visitors were banned and barred. One student was referred for disciplinary action.

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IN THEATERS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ELECTION RESULTS**Student President/Regent
and Vice President**

Michael Crabb and Gina Halbom -
52.12%

Senior Class Senators

Marshal McGovern - 27.07%
Andrew Roth - 20.53%

Junior Class Senators

Jimmie Pinkham III - 25.56%
Aditya Kulkarni - 18.22%

Sophomore Class Senators

Elizabeth (Molly) O'Connor - 32.03%
Sonny Dineen - 16.99%

Freshman Class Senators

Katie Lawlor - 24.94%
Ephraim Hintz - 17.14%

**College of Arts and
Science Senators**

Ashley Slovak - 7.24%
Stefanie Hoffman - 6.73%
Jordan Wagner - 6.17%
Ryan Tefft - 6.07%
Allison Myers - 5.36%

**College of Business
Administration Senators**

Nathan Kirkland - 14.3%
Stephanie Pravecek - 11.48%
Bradley Licht - 11.01%

**College of Public Affairs and
Community Service Senators**

Allison Manus - 29%
Jason Curtis - 25%

**College of Communication, Fine
Arts & Media Senators**

Steve Hartman - 25.37%
Tatiana Eskridge - 17.66%

College of Education Senators

Megan Moderow - 16.19%
Tina Thomas - 15.59%

**UNL College of Engineering
Senator**

John Wrobel - 47.64%

**College of Information Science
and Technology Senator**

Jeffrey Johnson - 75.58%

University Division Senator

Kyle Schulze - 83.15%

Omaha police and fire pension,
the \$593 million problem

STEVE COUFAL
CONTRIBUTOR

A \$593 million shortfall was revealed this spring when the "City of Omaha Police and Fire Retirement System Pension Task Force Report" was released.

There is a 75 percent chance the fund will run out of money within 25 years, and a 93 percent chance it will run out within 40 years, according to the report.

Now that the budget is completed, the pension crisis is taking center stage in city politics.

Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle has outlined the pension as one of the most pressing problems facing the city. He expressed urgency in dealing with the shortfall soon.

A new federal accounting board will force the city to bring the debt to a current profit and loss sheet today, Suttle said.

"That's why we have to fix it now. This is something that happened over time with numbers in the red that were a million dollars. Now it's \$500 million," he said. "Every mayor has taken care of short-term political needs, and then pushed stuff into the long term."

If the City of Omaha Police and Fire Retirement Service's underfunding is not addressed immediately the problem will become more costly and difficult to solve, according to the report. Delaying action could result in substantial tax increases, severe public service cuts or both.

"Two things are to blame," Omaha City Councilman Franklin Thompson said. "Not enough money went into the fund. The unions should be putting in 50-50."

The current arrangement has

a union member contributing 16 percent of their bi-weekly check and the city contributing 22 percent of that number.

The second problem is that the investments just went south, Thompson said. The recent downturn in the stock markets hurt everyone, including city government.

A third problem is that of union members "spiking" their pension funds, he said.

"A spiked pension is a pension benefit, the amount of which has been artificially enhanced through an employee's working significant amounts of overtime during the employee's final years of service with the purpose of artificially increasing his or her pensionable earnings, and pension benefit, above what was actually expected," according to the report.

When a pension is spiked, benefits that were never originally paid for are collected after retirement.

However, Thompson said that spiking was only 5 percent of the problem, but this fact was unable to be verified.

The mayor is now set for a showdown of sorts as his office engages in debates with the unions as to where the money will come from.

"We're going to make it happen," Suttle said. "That's just on the basis of me trusting them and them trusting me."

The debate over the pension is just like mental chess, he said.

"We just have to figure out how to position ourselves to do it for the good of the public and the good of the union," Suttle explained.

Suttle has a good track record in dealing with the unions. He has already convinced most of the major unions to accept pay freezes for the next two years.

Thompson cites Denver as an example of a city that had to dig its way out of a similar hole. The city cut benefits and also infused the fund with cash.

An example of possible benefit cuts would be disallowing spouses to continue to collect on pensions after the union member dies.

The union would likely fight any cuts, Thompson said.

"Omaha Police officers, like most police officers, by law are not part of Social Security," Aaron Hanson, president of the Omaha Police Officers' Association, said on FixPolicePension.com. "Because of this, Omaha Police retirees rely heavily on their pensions to sustain their retirements for them and their spouses."

Another concern is that Omaha Police retirees do not receive a true cost of living increase, like those received by police officers in comparable cities, as well as social security recipients, in order to keep up with inflationary increases, Hanson said.

Suttle has outlined several possible tax solutions for making up the shortfall, such as a sales tax, a garbage fee and another property tax. All three would have to either go up for a public vote or pass the City Council.

Suttle also offered a fourth solution, suggesting eliminating traditional sales tax exemptions for certain industries like agriculture.

The public would likely not be happy should there be another tax hike, Omaha City Clerk Buster Brown said.

"The economy is the reason for the shortfall this year," Brown said. "People are happy to have this budget done, but they are frustrated by the process and by the taxes."

FROM SUTTLE: PAGE 1



Mayor Suttle poses with the UNO College Democrats Monday night. (MIKE BELL/GATEWAY)

He focused on Omaha as a destination for tourists and out-of-state money.

"We have a great city," Suttle said. "We have a lot to offer, from the Durham Western Heritage Museum, to the Qwest Center, to the zoo."

One of the most compelling topics that arose was the issue of mass transit and a possible new rail

system, which Suttle dubbed as "The O-Line."

The basic line would run down Webster Street from Creighton to the Qwest Center, and down 10th street to the Old Market. From there, it would follow either Harney Street or Farnam Street to the Mutual of Omaha Midtown Crossing and end at the Nebraska Medical Center.

"The O-line is not about transportation, it's about economic development," Suttle said. "Will the O-line create \$1 billion in economic development three blocks on either side of it? Or is it \$750 million? Or is it \$100 million? That's the question."

Traditional Homecoming events walk the plank for pirate theme

MICHAEL ROMERO
CONTRIBUTOR

Arr! Ahoy ye scurvy sea dogs! Pirates are a coming to UNO! Well, sort of.

Homecoming Week kicks off Oct. 4 and with a pirate-themed week of events, students, faculty and staff are sure to come together in spirit, university pride and fun.

For some, the pirate theme was a lighthearted choice for homecoming.

"I thought it was awesome," senior Andrew Shaw said. Shaw is one of the candidates nominated for Homecoming King. "I saw that it was going to be a pirate theme and I thought, 'Wow this is perfect for me.' That's when I knew I had to get my name in the running, because come on... who doesn't want to be King of the Pirates? It's cool."

For those helping organize the week's events like Jordan Wagner and Nathan Kirkland, co-chairs of Maverick Traditions, being creative and original was key.

"Nathan and I researched possible themes online, and we brainstormed a lot," Wagner said. "I thought of how fun it would be to have a pirate theme. I thought campus could have a lot of fun with the week."

Homecoming week will kick off with a parade and pep rally bonfire on Oct. 4.

"[We are] bringing back the spirit of UNO through a Homecoming parade," said Erin Cron, the assistant director of Student Organizations and Leadership Programs as well as the advisor to Maverick Productions. "We have organizations participating in the parade and our king and queen candidates will be in the parade, so [it's] something fun and different we're going to try out this year."

Other events planned for the week include a performance by hypnotist Jim Wand, a "Game of Wits" game show presented by Mav Radio and a Spirit Cup competition that happens throughout the week. Organizations earn points through participation and by answering pop culture trivia questions for a chance at winning the Spirit Cup and bragging rights.

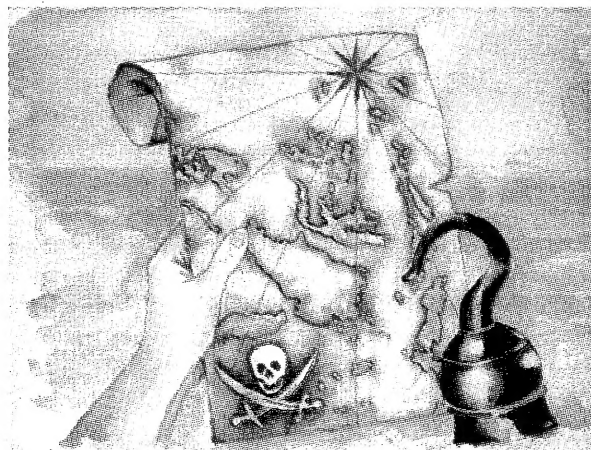
On Oct. 7, students can cast their ballots for Homecoming King and Queen. This year, students have more than one location to vote. However, in years past, students could only vote in the Milo Bail Student Center, but now a site in the Peter Kiewit Institute will also host a ballot box from 10 a.m. until noon for students on south campus.

There will be a homecoming fashion show on Oct. 8, which will include pieces by Omaha designers and boutiques. Local band Shiver Shiver will perform while comedian

Michelle Buteau will serve as the Master of Ceremonies.

The week wraps up with a homecoming dance on Oct. 9. Organizers encourage those attending to dress like pirates. The homecoming football game is on Oct. 10 where the Mavs will be taking on Washburn University at 1 p.m. The King and Queen will be crowned during the halftime ceremony.

"Homecoming is a time of year when all students come together to show their school spirit," said senior Gina Halbom, Homecoming Queen nominee. "I love the unity and traditionalism that homecoming brings to the UNO campus. All students of UNO come together and support one another. This type of atmosphere is ideal and should carry throughout the school year. We should all depict our



HOMECOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 4

Homecoming parade and bonfire: Parade begins at 1 p.m., meet in the parking lot near Durham Science Center, then travel through the Dodge Street Campus, through Elmwood Park and end on the Pacific Street campus. The bonfire will take place in the fields across from the Scott Conference Center after the parade.

Oct. 5

Hypnotist Jim Wand will perform at noon in the Nebraska Room of the Milo Bail Student Center.

Oct. 6

Game of Wits game show will be hosted at noon in the Nebraska Room.

Oct. 7-9

Homecoming King and Queen voting will take place from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center near the south doors.

Oct. 7

Sand sculpture building contest will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the Plaza.

Oct. 8

Mr. Maverick competition will be judged by the Homecoming Court in the MBSC Ballroom at 7 p.m.

Oct. 9

Homecoming Dance and awarding of the Spirit Cup will take place from 9 p.m. until midnight in the Nebraska Room.

Oct. 10

Homecoming football game tailgate will be hosted in Pep Bowl at 11 a.m. with the game starting at 1:05 p.m. Crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen will be presented at halftime.

Hollywood moves to help Polanski



Film director Roman Polanski holds his Best Director Oscar for "The Pianist" in Deauville, France, on Sept. 7, 2003. Polanski could not attend the Oscar ceremonies because he faces arrest in the United States. (SERGE ARNA/ABACA PRESS)

BY BOB STRAUSS
DAILY NEWS, LOS ANGELES

(MCT) - Hollywood power brokers began mobilizing Monday behind Oscar-winning director Roman Polanski, decrying his weekend arrest in the statutory rape of a 13-year-old girl more than three decades ago.

Several French movie organizations have asked Harvey Weinstein, founder of the legendary independent distributor Miramax Films and now head of the Weinstein Co., to lead an effort to get American film professionals to sign a petition protesting the arrest.

"We are calling every filmmaker we can to help fix this terrible situation," Weinstein said in a statement. A spokesperson added that Weinstein has promised to help in any way possible.

Polanski has lived in France since fleeing Los Angeles in 1978 after pleading guilty to statutory rape. He was taken into custody Saturday on an extradition warrant as he got off a plane at the Zurich airport to attend a Swiss film festival.

Polanski's European lawyers have said he plans to fight extradition back to the U.S., where he has yet to be sentenced.

How willing Polanski's American colleagues will be to publicly support him remains to be seen.

"Obviously, my sympathies are with Roman," said Robert Towne, who won an Academy Award for writing the director's "Chinatown" script. "I have great respect and affection for him."

Towne preferred to wait and see how the extradition process in Switzerland proceeded before commenting on the legal case, however.

There are also people in this town who feel Polanski should not be let off the hook, even if his victim, Samantha Geimer, has publicly endorsed dismissing the charge.

"Thirty years have not dimmed my memory of the crime for which this man was convicted," said Paul Petersen, the former "Donna Reed Show" star and president of A Minor Consideration, a nonprofit watchdog group for child performers. "In addition to the crime itself, there is for me the 'special circumstances' involved in luring an underage actress, after traditional audition hours, into a situation where he could take advantage of her through the use of drugs and the power of his position."

"Hollywood may have forgiven Mr. Polanski," Peterson said. "I have not."

However willing or reluctant Polanski's supporters in Hollywood may be to voice their opinions now, the entertainment community's general support - of him as an artist, anyway - appears undeniable.

"I think that Hollywood's already come to his rescue," observed John Nolte, editor of the bighollywood.com, a Polanski critic who nonetheless loves "Chinatown," "Rosemary's Baby" and the director's 2002 Academy Award-winner, "The Pianist."

"They gave him an Oscar, many big names are willing to work for him," he said. "That tells me that Hollywood is behind him, either through proactively supporting him or through their silence."

"ONE OF THE MOST DEEPLY MOVING ROMANTIC FILMS IN MEMORY."
KENNETH TURAN, Los Angeles Times

"TO QUOTE KEATS: 'A THING OF BEAUTY IS A JOY FOR EVER. SEE IT.'"
A.O. SCOTT, MOVIES

★★★★★
San Francisco Chronicle

ABBE CORNISH A JANE CAMPION FILM BEN WHISHAW

Bright Star

FIRST LOVE BURNS BRIGHTEST

PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED
SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN

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JAMES A. FUSSELL
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

(MCT) KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Ask Jasper Mirabile why he's Twittering, and you get three words back you didn't expect.

The Jonas Brothers.

Let him explain.

"My daughter, Alexandra, came upon Twitter when she was following the Jonas Brothers," the longtime Kansas City, Mo., chef and owner of Jasper's restaurant said. "Then she said, 'Dad, there's some national chefs like Emeril who are Twittering. I'll set you up an account.' I started Twittering the same day. Within three minutes I started getting e-mails from people saying, 'I'm following you on Twitter.' Within three days I had 103 followers."

It wasn't long before his tweets were hitting the target.

"The third day I put 'Jasper's is having a wine dinner with Peter Seghesio (a California winemaker). Seven courses, \$75,' and I put my phone number," he said. "The event sold out in two days."

Social media such as Twitter and Facebook are changing the way chefs communicate with their customers. Menus, ads and coupons are not going away, they're just augmented by the instant interactive communications of Twitter's 140-character "tweets." (It's easy to follow someone on Twitter. Just go to twitter.com, set up an account, then search for someone's name.)

When Mirabile started on Twitter in March he had no expectations.

"I figured it wouldn't hurt as long as it didn't take that much of my time," he said. "I thought I'd throw a few lines out there. But I had no idea I'd get these kinds of results. And my daughter was like, 'Told you so.'"

She even told her father that whatever he sends on Twitter she will automatically send to his Facebook page.

Never underestimate the power of a 16-year-old.

"What's so great about Twitter is I can be sitting here in the kitchen and I'll put, 'Jasper is cooking fresh asparagus today.' And then I will go in my dining room that night, and I will see some guests who say, 'Hey, I follow you on Twitter. That's why I came in for dinner.' So you know it's working. It's instantly letting my customers know what is going on."

Now that he has started Twittering, he can't stop.

"If I don't do it for a day I get e-mails from people

saying, 'Hey! Where are you? Are you OK? Why aren't you Twittering?'"

So Mirabile Twitters all the time - at his cooking classes, the farmer's market, even during his radio show (Saturday mornings at 11 a.m. on KCMO 710). And when his new cookbook comes out? That's right. He'll have to send tweets about book signings.

Typically he sends three to four messages a day, but sometimes as many as eight.

"My new thing? I'm going to take pictures while I am Twittering," he said. "I just found out you can do that."

Colby Garrelts, executive chef and owner of Bluestem restaurant in Kansas City, Mo., says tweeting from his cell phone is a revolutionary way to stay in touch with his best customers.

"It just lets people know, 'Ooh, they're doing something cool today,'" he said. "What that does is try to make us the first choice if they're deciding to go out to dinner. You still have to use traditional media, but this helps reinforce your base. It's an enormous tool."

But a tool not all chefs embrace.

"A lot of older restaurateurs may think this is silly," Garrelts said. "Let them think that."

Celina Tio, former executive chef at the American Restaurant, is opening up her own place called Julia(n) in the fall. And she's counting on Twitter to communicate spur-of-the-moment events.

"On Sundays I'm going to have a family meal, where there's no menu and I just cook and it's served family style," she said. "When I decide what I am going to be cooking I could Twitter and let the guests know," she said. "Or I could say, 'We're starting to get busy, you might want to come down now, or two seats are opening up at the bar in about 30 minutes.'"

"Right now I'm tweeting about milestones in opening the restaurant, like 'I just got the chairs,' or 'I'm getting the liquor license.' It creates excitement, and if people don't know what goes into opening a restaurant they can get a little taste."

Jenny Kincaid of Will Gregory Public Relations knows a good thing when she sees it. And when it comes to getting the word out about a chef or a restaurant, there's nothing better than instant communication. Being on Facebook and Twitter is not a requirement for being Kincaid's client, "but we certainly recommend that chefs Twitter as well as restaurant managers and people in the industry. It's a very effective way

to get information out. It's quick. And it's free."

When the Food Network named Blanc Burgers + Bottles in Westport the best burger in Missouri, Kincaid sprang into action.

"Immediately we sent out Twitters and updated our Facebook pages," she said. "It was surprising to see how many people were posting back (nice comments). That's a perfect example of how big it's become and how many people are doing it and checking it daily. And you are able to add both Twitter and Facebook to your phone, so you automatically get updates. I'm just getting into Twitter myself, but it's fascinating. I love it."

"When Colby Garrelts was in New York for the James Beard Awards, people were Twittering all night. Every 10 seconds everyone was posting an update about who won, who was up next, what they were eating or who was there... It was interesting. You just felt like you were there without being there."

Chris Kimball, founder of "America's Test Kitchen" on PBS and publisher and editor of Cook's Illustrated magazine, uses Twitter to communicate with viewers and readers. Since he began Twittering in March he has posted short recipes (pickled cucumbers, anyone?), answered questions (what coffeemaker should I buy?) and created contests.

"The one I got the most response from was when I asked how much we spent per year in the test kitchen (\$335,000). We had a lot of people guessing. We gave away lifetime subscriptions."

He's not a fan of Twitter's original "What-are-you-doing-now?" concept.

"I don't care what you're doing now," he said. "I mean... looking out a window? I don't care."

What he does care about is having a conversation.

"It seems to me the more personal the tweet the better," he said. "For instance, I'm having this huge 12-course dinner party. So I asked, 'Who are the A-list people I should invite?' We made it a contest and gave the winners a few cookbooks."

Not everyone's happy with his new practice, though.

"My wife's very upset with me that I am doing it," he said. "We went on vacation to Rome in March, and I (embarrassing pause) actually tweeted when I was there. I think she views it as the end of the civilization as we know it."

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OCTOBER ARTS AND EVENTS CALENDAR

ANDREA BARBE
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Oct. 2 – Kansas City indie rock band The Get Up Kids perform with Youth Group and Pretty and Nice at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$23 day of show.

Oct. 2 – The Blue Barn Theatre presents “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.” The play runs through Oct. 17 with performances Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. There are additional performances on Oct. 4 and Oct. 11 at 6 p.m. For tickets, call 345-1576.

Oct. 2 – Acoustic solo act Secondhand Serenade plays Sokol Underground with opening bands Parachute and Evan Taubenfeld and the Rust. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the show starting at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$18 and can be purchased through Ticketmaster.

Oct. 3 – The Durham Museum hosts “Icons of a Border Installation,” a traveling photo exhibit that commemorates the fall of the Berlin Wall on its 20th anniversary. The exhibit will be on loan until Oct. 18.

Oct. 4 – The Nebraska Brewing Company, located at 72nd and Highway 370, hosts South O Retro Day from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Oct. 4 – The KANEKO-UNO Library at 12th and Jones Streets in the Old Market presents a sneak preview of “Art in the Twenty-First Century” at 2 p.m. “Art:21,” now in its fifth season, is the only television series in prime time that’s focused exclusively on contemporary art. Admission is free. For more information, call 932-3486.

Oct. 6 – Rock trio Chevelle plays a 7 p.m. concert at Sokol Auditorium. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the show starting at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased through Ticketmaster.

Oct. 7 – The Mid-America Center hosts Creed with special guest Staind for a 7:30 p.m. concert.

Oct. 8 – UNO’s Maverick Productions presents the Unburied Treasures Fashion Show from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom. The show features music by local band Shiver Shiver and New York comedian Michelle Buteau.

Oct. 8 – Shelterbelt Theater kicks off “Shelterskelter,” their 14th annual Halloween-themed presentation of original short plays. This show runs Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 6 p.m. until Halloween. General admission is \$15 or \$12 for students, seniors and Theater Arts Guild members.

Oct. 9 – Stir Summer Concert Series brings Rob Thomas, OneRepublic and Carolina Liar to Harrah’s Casino in Council Bluffs. Tickets can be purchased at stircove.com for this 6:30 p.m. concert.

Oct. 9 – “Hippie Doctor” kicks off the fall UNO Theatre season at 7:30 p.m. The play runs through Oct. 17 in the Weber Fine Arts Building. Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$5 for non-UNO students with their school ID and free for all UNO students.

Oct. 9 – One-man band Owl City plays the Waiting Room Lounge for an all-ages 8 p.m. show. Opening bands include The Scene Aesthetic and Brooke Waggoner.

Oct. 10 – The Bellevue Pumpkin Ranch is hosting its second annual Midlands Pirate Festival from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. that runs through Oct. 11. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and those under age 7 get in free.

Oct. 12 – Nashville rock band Kings of Leon plays the Mid-America Center. The concert begins at 8 p.m. with open band White Lies. Tickets can be purchased at midamericacenter.com.

Oct. 15 – MC Chris performs at the Waiting Room Lounge, 6212 Maple St. The concert kicks off at 9 p.m. Advance tickets are \$13 and \$15 day of show.

Oct. 16 – The Joslyn Art Museum presents “Young Frankenstein” at 7 p.m. The show serves as a 35th anniversary tribute to actor Mel Brooks and features comedian Cloris Leachman. Seats are \$20 and are available at Omaha area Hy-Vee food stores.

Oct. 17 – Mangelsen’s hosts their 32nd Annual Witches Tea from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Oct. 21 – Omaha Civic Auditorium Arena presents Daughtry, a rock group fronted by former American Idol contestant Chris Daughtry. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 21 – The Omaha Music Hall kicks off a two-day showing of “Menopause, the Musical.” Tickets for this 8 p.m. showing are available for purchase on Ticketmaster.

Oct. 22 – The Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts hosts Curators Tour: 11th Annual Art Auction. These tours will highlight three auction exhibits beginning at 6 p.m.

Oct. 23 – Comedian Lisa Lampanelli performs at the Omaha Music Hall. Tickets to see comedy’s “Queen of Mean” start at \$37.75 through Ticketmaster. The show begins at 8 p.m.

Oct. 24 – The Shark Club, located at 2808 S. 72nd St., presents the Halloween Pool Party starting at 9 p.m.

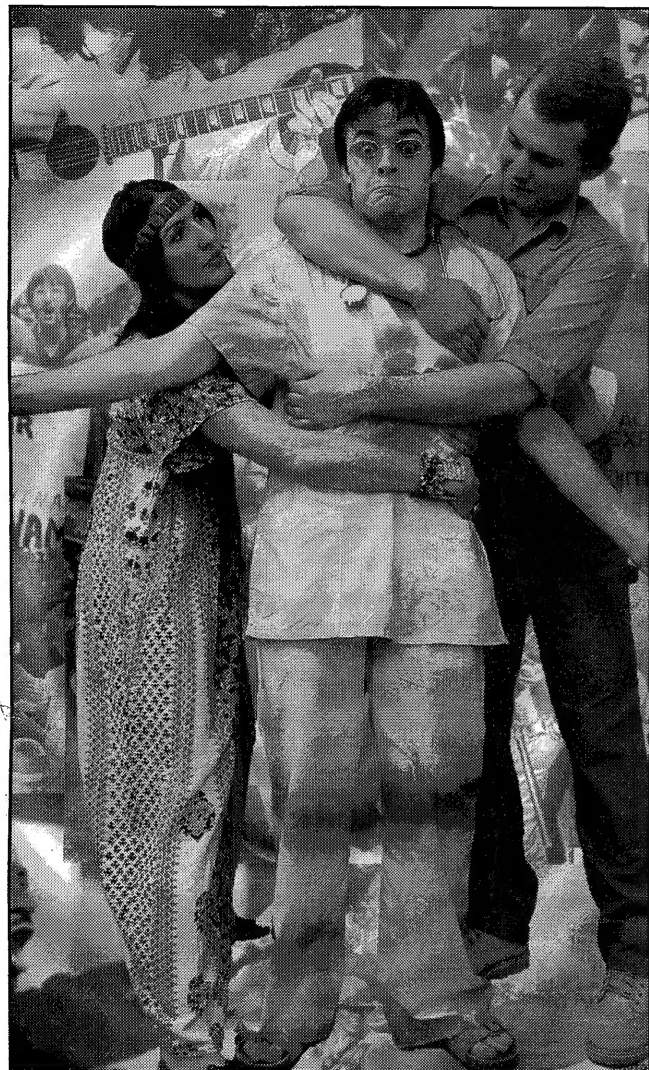
Oct. 27 – Alternative rock band Dinosaur Jr. plays the Slowdown at 9 p.m. Admission is \$20.

Oct. 30 – The Liar’s Club Bar and Grill hosts their own Halloween Party at 9 p.m. complete with costume contest.

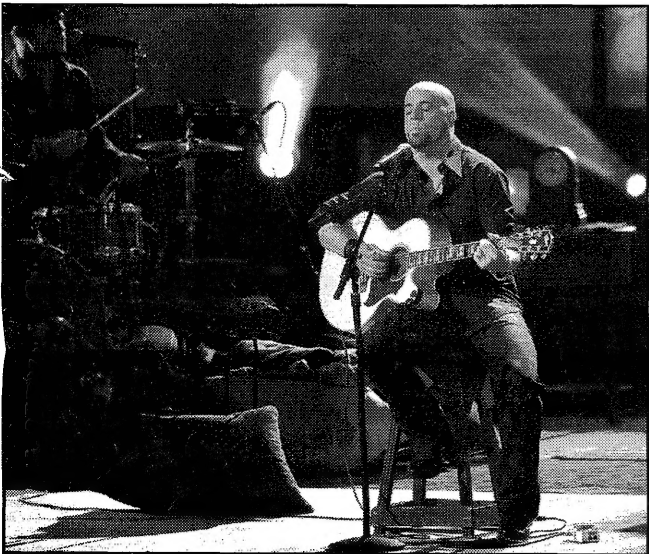
Oct. 30 – Slowdown hosts the sixth annual True Goth Ball at Slowdown. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 day of show for those ages 21 and over. The show starts at 8 p.m.

Oct. 31 – The Drink on 10865 West Dodge Road presents their Halloween 2009 party from 8 p.m. until 2 a.m.

Oct. 31 – The Salty Dog hosts “Out of This World Halloween Party.” The party kicks off at 6 p.m. and includes a costume contest for a cash prize. Music will be provided by DJ Nick the Quick.



UNO Theatre's fall play "Hippie Doctor." (PHOTO COURTESY ROBBIE JONES)



Chris Daughtry performs at the 2007 American Music Awards on November 18, 2007 in Los Angeles, California. (FRANCIS SPECKER/LANDOV/MCT)



Caged dancers, goth guys and girls and other spectators watch as a model walks down the runway during a previous Goth Ball. (BILL WENDL/THE GATEWAY)

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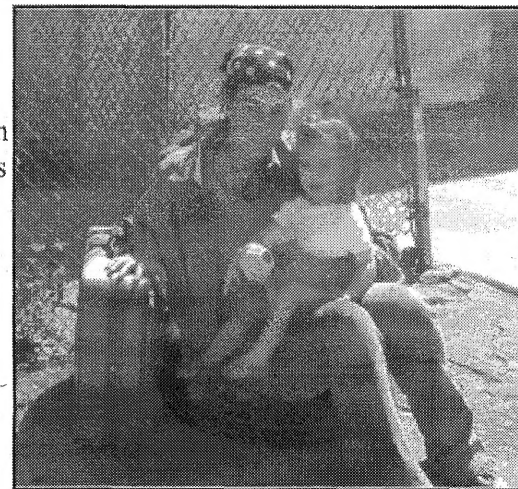
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Mavs picked to finish sixth; DelGrosso earns pre-season honor

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNO hockey team has been picked to finish sixth in the 12-team Central Collegiate Hockey Association by the league's coaches. The media poll pegged the Mavs to finish seventh.

The Mavs got 63 points in the coaches poll, two points ahead of Alaska-Fairbanks. UNO was nine points behind Alaska in the media poll.

The Mavs went 15-17-8 overall and 8-13-7-3 in the CCHA last year, finishing eighth in the conference. The Mavs started the season with the best start in school history, going 12-4-3 before finishing the season with only three wins in 21 games.

UNO returns 19 letterwinners from last year, including all eight defensemen.

The University of Michigan was picked first in the coaches and media polls, the first time that the same team was chosen first in both polls since 2005.

On Tuesday, Mavs senior defenseman Eddie DelGrosso was named to the Central Collegiate Hockey Association's preseason all-conference second team on Tuesday by the conference office. He was the only Maverick player to be selected to the conference's first and second teams.

DelGrosso, a Las Vegas native, earned second-team all-conference honors last season after leading the team in scoring with six goals and 28 assists, an impressive feat for a defenseman. He finished 16th in the league in scoring.

Players are chosen in a vote by the league's 12 head coaches.

Wunderlich is Offensive Player of the Week



Quarterback Greg Wunderlich scrambles away during a game earlier this season. (ANDREA BARBE/ THE GATEWAY)

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior quarterback Greg Wunderlich has been honored as the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association Offensive Player of the Week.

Wunderlich, from Naperville, Ill., torched Missouri Southern on Saturday with 369 passing yards and four touchdowns in the Mavs' 44-36 victory. He completed 21 of 29 passes to eight different receivers, leading the Mavs to their first road win of the season.

The passing yardage was a season-high for the Mavs and the during head coach Pat Behrns' tenure at UNO. The most passing yards in school history is 414, set by John Smolsky against Nevada-Las Vegas during

the 1976 season.

Wunderlich has posted back-to-back career games. He set a previous career-high on Sept. 19 with 332 yards in the loss against Northwest Missouri State.

For the season, Wunderlich is 88-of-134 for 1,321 yards and 13 touchdowns. He is completing 65 percent of his passes and averaging 264 passing yards per game. He is also averaging 15 yards per completion.

The Mavericks will be on the road again Saturday as they take the field against Emporia State at 1 p.m.



Linesman Jason Buzzell (left) and Scott Fitzpatrick (right) break up a scuffle between Northern Michigan's Nick Sirota and UNO's Matt Ambroz (left) and Eddie DelGrosso (right) during a game last season. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

Volleyball duo earns weekly conference honors

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

Earning the Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association Player of the Week honor is nothing new for sophomore setter Emily Myers.

But for senior middleblocker Ellen Thommes, the honor seems overdue.

On Tuesday, the MIAA announced Thommes and Myers as the conference's Players of the Week for the week of Sept. 22-26.

The Mavs (15-4, 5-1 MIAA) went 2-1 during the week, led by Thommes at the net and Myers leading the attack.

UNO moved up two spots to No. 15 in the newest American Volleyball Coaches Association poll.

Thommes had a .452 attack percentage during the week. She averaged 4.23 points and 3.54 kills per game while also averaging almost one block.

Thommes stepped up her play against No. 6 Washburn on Sept. 23. She had 19 kills and hit .450 while blocking six shots in the 3-2 victory.

In the 3-0 sweep of Fort Hays State on Sept. 25, Thommes registered nine kills with a .381 attack percentage. She also had four blocks.

Against No. 3 Emporia State the

next day, Thommes had 18 kills with a .500 attack percentage. She totaled 46 kills for the week.

Myers earned her third Specialist of the Week honors of the season. She averaged 11.62 assists and 2.77 digs per set. She had 30 or more assists and had a double-double in all three matches.

Myers registered 56 assists and 11 digs in the victory against Washburn. She had 33 assists and 11 digs against Fort Hays and followed up with a season-high 62 assists and 14 digs in the loss against Emporia State.

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Who Are We...?

My name is Tae Yung and I am from China. I was born in Beijing and live in New York City. I am studying to be a doctor and like to play baseball.

My name is Eliana Carvalu and I am from Brazil. I was born in Rio de Janeiro and live in Newaygo, Michigan. I am studying to be an occupational therapist and love to sing karaoke.

My name is Lotus and I am a lesbian. I was born and raised in Omaha Nebraska. I am studying to be a paramedic and love to twirl fire after dark.

My name is Billy Bob and I am from Mississippi. I am an active member of the KKK and strongly believe in white supremacy.

My name is Jillian. I am an elderly African American secretary and love my job. I love collecting angels. and make sure my things are in order.

Contributor



Jason Curtis

Individually we are as far from one another as people can be. We fight and bicker amongst ourselves but when the time comes to stand together we are one. We become an undying, unbreakable and undefeated team. We become a force too strong for the outsiders to understand.

Who Are We...? We Are America And We Will Stand Together!

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CORIE HOLLAND CONTRIBUTOR

Eyes so intently focused on the bustling sidewalk that she could only see blurs of faces- no bodies, no strollers, no shops, relying on intuition to guide her around all obstacles- she reflected on how different her life is now than it was then. Then was simple and she was carefree. She thought she knew bills and stress and how to live. That time of stupid juvenility- had it really existed? Now, though, this is the truth. Life is supposed to be like this. Her own salon, her own mid-town mid-size apartment, her own tedious routine. Turning into the deli as she did every Tuesday, a smug grimace smoke-wisped across her face. She's the pinnacle, and no one can take away.

Pastrami, pepper jack cheese, mayo and Greek olives. Her sandwich, always. It fit into Tuesday perfectly: get up late, sign this, pay this, take a different route, go into the shop at 1. Everything she liked, all wrapped up into one day. To top it off, she pushed through the deli door her hand smack in the center of the door. Leaving her mark but remaining anonymous, and (best of all) annoying whatever sap had to clean the print off, she could enjoy the sandwich in pure joy. The otherwise grubby street lemed as she resumed her trek into work. Then something caught her eye. A lump leaned against the brick retaining wall of some slum condo building- it was composed of a ratted green jacket, sleepy old Chucks and assumedly a being tucked within. Something about that sight made her stop a moment. Pressure built behind her left upper ribs. For reasons unknown, vocal cords vibrated and a mouth sculpted "Do you want some of my sandwich?"

Movement, oh so brief, that her hindered eyes could not see. "What's on it?"

"Pastrami, pepper jack cheese, mayo, and Greek olives." This is taking too long, she thought, so why can't I move?

"Sure. But do me a favor: could you take the cheese off my half? I can't handle it well, and I'd do it myself but I don't want to scurvy up the rest of your"

"Forget it!" She had returned and remobilized. Without another neuron firing with concern towards the bundle, the sandwich and its captive blazed away.

The rest of the week went according to plan. A few clients each day, an employee threatening to quit, frozen dinners. From time to time, she would check out the guys who came in. Though she enjoyed her independence immensely, she couldn't help but to think there had to be someone tolerable enough to allow into her wonderful life. A person who likes her without expecting change, someone to bounce jokes off of, to cry on, to ignore whenever she felt like it, to pester when she didn't. None of the so-called men she saw, however, seemed to fit that profile. Some were too needy, others too careless, and still others too... well, too something. In this week, never once did the ratted blob enter her mind.

Until Tuesday morning, as she was drying her hair. She had been fantasizing about that beautiful sandwich and was rudely interrupted by that. Like all homeless people, it didn't have a name. It was just there, wanting. Shaking her ruddy serpentine locks in the blistering gust, she blew off the thought. Scan this paper, sign three checks to three distant conglomerations, sign a birthday card to a friend she hasn't seen in five years, sign for mail, slip out the door. Hazy shades set, onto another glorious Tuesday.

And of course smudge was there, waited for her all week. Her conscious saw it as a python in the microwave: she wanted nothing more than to slam the door shut, high power for fifteen minutes. Sure the result would be everywhere,

haunt her for days, but at least it would be gone. Her subconscious, curse it, commandeered her body and asked the question again. Still she was blind, but she could hear it perfectly.

Hopeful, but not for the sandwich. "Sure. But the cheese?"

In the nick of time, Caesar stabbed back at Brutus. Without comment, she continued on her way.

Life continued on, but something was new, wrong. It crawled on her arms, tickled the back of her knees, slipped its tongue into her ear. Poured Drano in her brain, crumbled LSD into her heart, snapped tortoise teeth at her toes. All masculine faces which entered into the salon melted into the sink drains, escaping her no matter how much she petitioned their return. Each night before she went to bed she prayed for napalm to blast through her REM cycle, willed sarin to creep up her nose and claw out any thought of it. No luck: the sack invaded her slumber night after night. Relentless, it held her down, smothering her into submission. She never slept so well, or so long. Twice she woke late, forced to push off hygiene until the 10:15 slump. Sunday night she dreaded Tuesday. Monday devoted her entire day's thought process to a door-to-door petition of the unknowable universe that it would not ascot her the next day.

Tuesday once more. Bent to the right, Saharan wind blistering her ear, she contemplated forgoing her sandwich. A simple solution, no? But she had to know, could not let this eat her up any longer. It's probably not there; two sweaty immigrants had lugged it into the big green monster in the wee hours of this very morning. Standing in the inevitable line, she weighs her options: she could get pepper jack on only half the sandwich. But should it not be there, or it is unreasonable again, then half would be wasted. Holding her usual in her quivering hand, she grips the bar on the door. Steady, steady, walk forward. Half a block and it's there. A tide rushes through her, slopping against her innards, piercing and protruding through her skin. No words this time, simply holding out the sandwich.

"Sure."

Before it can say anything more, a perfectly manicured hand peels back the wrapper, pushes aside the rye, and slides the lactate to one side. Reassembled, the sandwich breaks in half and floats down towards the green nothing. Except it is no longer nothing. It is a hand, gripping the treasure with packing peanut softness. The top opens, falls away. For a moment, she rides the blue-green sea upon a small black speck, reaching zenith-ward for never-ending eyelashes. She regains most of her perspective, now aware of the slight stubble peppered on the borders of his smooth Mojave skin.

"You'll excuse me if I don't eat this in one gulp. I haven't eaten in awhile, and I think it less offending for me to pick than to hurl."

He was talking to her. Really talking. And smiling. She never knew she wanted this, but it feels so good. Perhaps she should talk back. What can one say at a time like this, at any time?

"When? Why?" Didn't make much sense, but yet it did.

"Oh, about two weeks ago, when I saw you. I felt it, you know, that I should wait for you. At times I feared I would die, that you would never come my way again. But it worked out: you're here, we're here. That's alright with you, yeah?"

Three hours felt like three minutes to everyone but the sandwich. In that time they talked about how she got there, how he got there, how there got there. As the last bite hit his stomach, right on cue, she turns to her watch. Her clients! Her employees! She wobbles up from the ratty cocoon. Words sputter out, his head shakes, his hands flutter. Brilliant smile says no worries, see you soon. In a timid rush, she leaves, turquoise pulsating off the buildings, the cars, the children with each step she takes.